

THE STROBE

FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE'S NEWSPAPER

Issue 9

November 16, 1994

FSC's great pot debate

by Jennifer Scull
Strobe staff

The Student Government Association (SGA) and the Smart Choices program are co-sponsoring "The Great Pot Debate" on November 17 at 7:30 p.m. in Percival Auditorium. The pros and cons of the legalization of marijuana will be discussed, as well as the social and medical implications of this issue.

Chris Pender, the Director of Adolescent Services at the Life Center Foundation, Inc., will speak about the dangers of marijuana use. Pender is "an experienced addictions specialist with expertise in adolescent drug use and issues of violence." He has worked with substance abusers for 15 years.

The Massachusetts Cannabis Reform Coalition, Inc. (MASS CANN), a non-profit, volunteer educational organization, will speak about the benefits of the cannabis plant and the damage prohibition could cause.

Marijuana has been used for thousands of years for medical, social and religious reasons. According to MASS CANN pamphlets, "one out of

every three American adults are estimated to have tried it and one in 20 use it monthly."

MASS CANN publishes information on the benefits of the cannabis plant (or HEMP), parts of which are legally known as marijuana. MASS CANN is looking to fully restore the hemp industry and legalize hemp cultivation.

"MASS CANN believes that when the history of cannabis' use and cultivation in Massachusetts, and the potential uses of the plant as a natural, renewable, ecologically sound source of fiber, fuel, food, animal feed, medicines, fuels . . . as well as its uses as a recreational and spiritual substance are understood, the laws will be changed."

This debate was originally scheduled during the month of October. However, Holly Kreidler-Phaneuf, the Substance Awareness Coordinator, had difficulty finding an opposing party to debate with MASS CANN.

Kreidler-Phaneuf encourages students to attend the debate and learn about both sides of the issue. The debate is open to everyone and admission is free.

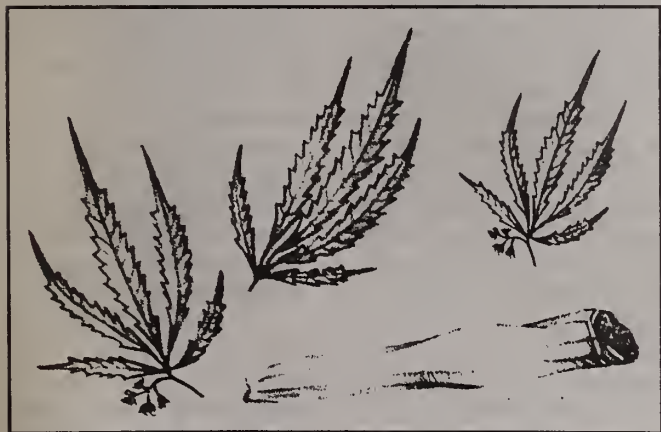


photo by Derek Valcourt
Fifteen cars were towed from Pearl St. in front of the Hammond Building last Tuesday morning when repaving began there. According to one police source, there was no prior notice of a parking ban.

Bus service cutbacks

by Andrew Taylor
Staff writer

Have you ever traveled by bus or train on a regular basis and then been told that the service that you normally use has been terminated? This happens to numerous people each day who rely on public transportation. One person on campus who is no stranger to this frustration is Professor Harriet Alonso of the History department.

Alonso does not lead the life of a normal college professor. Living in Brooklyn, New York, she has commuted to Fitchburg State College every week for the past six years. Alonso has been able to work her schedule so that she has classes from Tuesday through Friday. She does not travel everyday, however. An average travel week for Alonso begins at 6:15 a.m. every Tuesday. At this time, she leaves New York, arriving in Fitchburg between 1:30 and 2:00, just in time for

her afternoon class. Her return trip is just as long. She usually leaves at 12:30 Friday afternoon and arrives home around 7:00 p.m. Between arrival and departure from Fitchburg, Alonso resides on campus in Herlihy Hall.

Traveling every week consumes a lot of time. Each week Alonso can plan on at least 14 hours of travel time to and from her home. Due to recent Peter Pan Bus Company cutbacks, these long days have become even longer. For years, Alonso has taken a bus from New York to Worcester with a connection from Worcester to Fitchburg. Just recently Peter Pan cut their Worcester to Fitchburg routes to only twice a day: 7 a.m. and 6:45 p.m. Due to this large gap in time, Alonso must take a cab from Worcester to Fitchburg, costing her \$36 one way, twice what a bus ticket would.

According to Alonso, the reason that Peter Pan began

cutting that bus's route was because there were not enough people taking it. The company felt it wasn't profitable to keep running the service. Due to this decision, Alonso must leave at different times or pay an expensive cab fare. In the past, Alonso has been fortunate to get occasional rides to the Worcester area, but that does not happen often.

Alonso is not the only person from the college affected by these changes. There are some students, as well as other faculty, who use that bus. Because of this, President Mara wrote a letter to the Peter Pan Bus Company on behalf of these people.

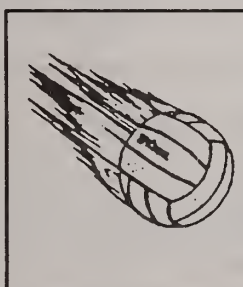
Alonso claims that the bus service has been frustrating and unreliable for many passengers. In response to this, a Peter Pan Supervisor said that the reason for the elimination was because the Worcester to Fitchburg route was not popular. Peter Pan, however, still offers some service to these areas.

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Errishi 'flirts with the essentials'

by Anne Marie Kicza
Contributing writer

Philosophy and Physics professor Dr. Ali Errishi presented a centennial event lecture entitled "Flirting with the Essentials: Remarks on the American Philosophical Endeavor in the Last 100 Years," on November 8 in Kent Recital Hall.

Errishi spoke to an audience of approximately 40 on the history of philosophy. He described philosophy as "the disciplined account of the consequence of the will." Philosophy is not about God, but the soul, or "that which is you and not your body."

"One cannot know anyone by studying their behavior," said Errishi. He added that most Americans do not believe that.

Errishi named the

beginning of philosophy as "when Socrates took his leap of faith and threw himself into the arms of the soul." He made distinctions between schools of philosophy, such as the Greek Sophists and Naturists and the American Pragmatists.

Pragmatism, an American philosophical movement founded by Charles Pierce and William James, focuses on practical consequences and thought as a guide to action. Pragmatism includes the faculties of action and thought, and between the two lies belief. He described belief as unfixed, always subject to doubt.

Errishi explained William James' "Theory of Truth," where truth lies in function. James rejected both the correspondence and consistency theories of truth. Errishi said, "I myself don't

know how he got away with it!" To deny James' theory, Errishi gave an example that a clock that does not work is still a clock.

In addition to others, Errishi spoke of John Dewey who lived to age 93 and attempted to reform the traditional educational system in America. "If you live that long, you're likely to hit it right a few times," said Errishi.

Errishi cited the problem of American pragmatism as the tendency to confuse politics with philosophy. He touched on philosophers, politics, multiculturalism and psychology. He said that America, as "the only truly multicultural civilization," must go beyond merely flirting with the objects of its philosophical desire.

Police pound the pavement

by Dave Graham
Contributing writer

"To protect and serve" is what's happening on and around the streets of Fitchburg. It's two police officers on a walking beat. The brave men that pursue the streets surrounding the campus are there for the protection of the students, not to just break up parties.

At the beginning of October, nine men were assigned the duty to walk the streets of Fitchburg, to try to alter its crime-ridden ways. These men were recruited straight from the police academy to serve on the Fitchburg Police force. Thanks to a Federal grant that gave the city a half million dollars to sink into this new program, the streets will have a new system of crime watch.

These new officers, who have been trained recently with all the new insights of where, how and when to look for criminal activity, are now using their skills to help clean up the streets. Sergeant Glen Fossa, of the Fitchburg Police department said that the job of the officers is not only to look out for crime, but also to "intensify the presence of police officers on the beat and to integrate them into the residential area."

By doing this, the city hopes to achieve a bond between the officers and citizens that seems to have broken down tremendously over the past several years.

"We would like to become closer to all citizens, to help ensure a new trust and belief in the job that we are doing for the community," said Fossa.

It's unknown at this time exactly what will happen to this special patrol when the money from the grant runs out, but, for now, the officers are keeping the streets safe. The officers currently patrol the streets during peak hours of criminal activity and will hopefully continue to do so in the future.

Human Services fair offers opportunities

by Kerry Smith
Staff writer

On November 3, the Eleventh Human Services Fair introduced representatives from various companies who filled the rows of tables in G-lobby to FSC. The programs room looked like a maze with over 30 tables and twice as many people, making this fair hard to miss.

Each table represented companies that were interested in prospective students for internships or practica.

Companies such as "Pro Health" of Fitchburg; "A New Day (Vocational Program)" of Pepperell; "Youth Opportunities Upheld Inc." of Worcester; "Family Continuity Program" of Quincy; "American Red Cross" of Leominster; "Mount Wachusett Community College" of Gardner; and "Ayer District Court" of Ayer were among those represented at the Human Services fair at FSC.

One woman seated at her table said she had "an overall good feeling about this day, a feeling of accomplishment for having reached out to both the students and the companies."

Outside the room, talks of internships and possible future paths were discussed by those responsible for the existence of the fair. Eileen Ganong, Richard Spencer and John Hancock, all from the Behavioral Sciences department, were eager to talk about the success of the fair. They called it the "Human Services fair for all... a sharing of ideas for all."

Eileen Ganong said the fair "gives students a better idea of what they will be going into with a practicum or internship."

Hancock added that it "successfully blends the agencies and students."

Richard Spencer explained that FSC invited

companies that allow practicum and internship experiences to talk to all interested students. Though generally aimed at those majoring in Psychology, Sociology, Public Relations, Nursing, Special Education, Communications and Human Services, the fair was an open field of opportunity for all.

Spencer deemed the fair an "educational piece... a linkage to help students to better know about internships and practica."

Ganong, Spencer and Hancock were proud of the progress of the fair. The first Human Services fair started as a cookout and the present fair has developed into a roaring flame big enough to consume the whole programs room. The lighter of this successful fire is Mary King, a fieldwork counselor at FSC. She is responsible for its existence through a lot of hard work.

Lorenzen submits proposal to ACC

by Kris Ruberti
Staff writer

Dr. Lou Lorenzen, a professor of Humanities and Art, submitted a proposal to the All College Committee (ACC) to develop a joint program between FSC and the Worcester Center for Crafts Professional School.

The proposal states that students would attend FSC for the first two years to complete their liberal, arts and sciences courses. Then they would attend WCC for their professional craft courses during their last two years. Admission to FSC would be granted upon approval of their preliminary portfolio and an interview at WCC.

The joint program would be a benefit for both institutions. For FSC, it would mean an additional number of qualified students in the LA&S courses, access to a multi-million-dollar complex and the services of a professional art facility at no cost to the college.

"We are losing students to other colleges because they

can't obtain a four year degree in art," said Lorenzen.

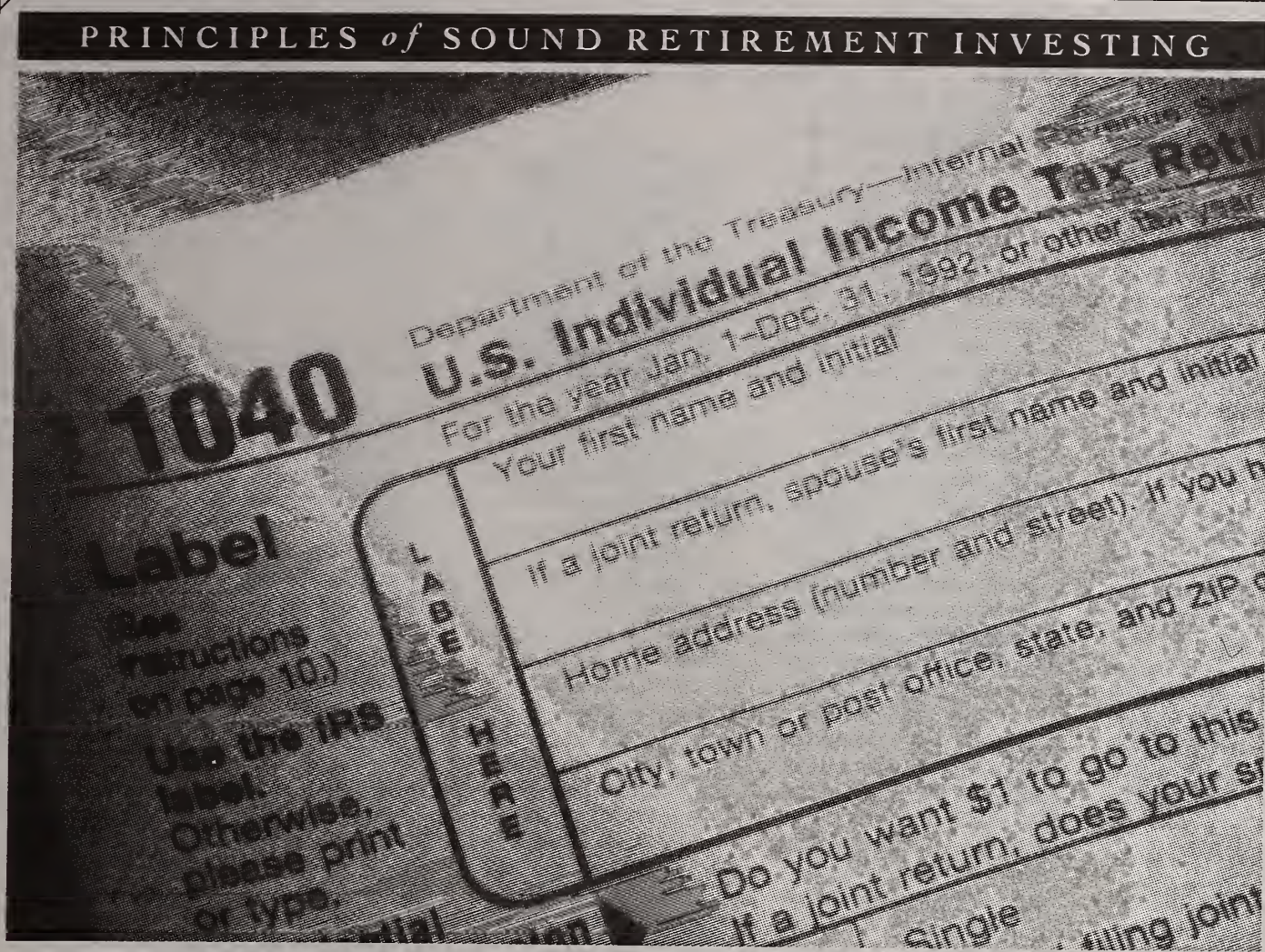
The ACC held a meeting on November 2, but because of the faculty's Work to Rule, which means that the faculty will not do anything outside of their basic contracts, not much was accomplished.

The ACC is a committee that discusses proposals submitted by members of the college. ACC refers all proposals to its various subcommittee for recommendations, who then send it back to ACC for further discussion and vote.

Due to the faculty's Work to Rule, the faculty association and/or Executive Committee cannot assign faculty members to subcommittees. The assigned subcommittees would be considered inappropriate due to the circumstances. Therefore, it seems that the ACC is limited in terms of what they can do with proposals, since they cannot act on recommendations from non-existing subcommittees.

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'Shop till you drop'

by Randy Miner
Strobe staff

Walking through the mall, you feel this intense anxiety take hold of your body. Your face starts to sweat and you begin to walk faster. Time is running out. Searching for the perfect gifts for your loved ones, you enter the jam-packed stores. The items you pick out are either too expensive or out of stock. Now what are you to do?

Do you experience this situation every Christmas? Are you a "last minute" shopper? If so, here's some advice to cure your Christmas season blues before it's too late.

Christmas is the season for being thoughtful by giving presents -- which is why it is not a good idea to wait for the last

minute. Gifts are meant to be original and special. Now is a good time to start the trend of early Christmas shopping.

First, I advise you to write a Christmas list for the people you wish to buy for. Write down their hobbies and likes. Pick out the items you think they would never buy for themselves. For example, if your sister is an enormous fan of Nirvana, then pick out posters, tee-shirts, books, or videos about the group as a gift.

Now, there will always be those people who you have no clue as to what to buy. Either you do not know what they like, or maybe they have everything you can think of. Well, what about gift certificates? Ask them what their favorite restaurant is and get them a gift certificate. Or better yet, buy them a pass to go to the movies. Who does not love gift certificates? Remember that tacky plaid shirt your aunt bought for you last Christmas? Now don't you wish you had a gift certificate?

Once you have picked out the items you wish to buy, call up local retail stores and tell them what you are looking for. They can tell you if they have the item in stock. This will save



you travel time.

Just remember to shop around. Don't just buy the first item you find. You might find a better buy in another store. Don't you like to save money? This season all the retail stores are in competition for your business. If you find an item and it is damaged, ask a manager to mark it down for you. It will save you money.

Finally, I think the best relief for all college students is layaway. Most fine retail stores contain layaways which give shoppers 30 days to pick up their goods. This gives students enough time to save up money.

Whatever the case, enjoy the holiday season and don't let the stress of last minute shopping get the best of you. You're in control of the shopping cart, so start now!

Police Log

November 6, 1994

Assault & Battery- Assist victim of an off-campus incident.
Disturbance- Report of men annoying women residents in Aubuchon Hall laundry room.

Request For Police- Report of fight in progress at Russell Towers. Suspect gone upon our arrival. Will issue a campus trespass/ban notice to individual.

November 7, 1994

Fire Alarm- Defective smoke detector in New Halls set off fire alarm.

Vandalism- To FSC property in the Hammond Building.
Assault & Battery- Filing criminal charges on behalf of student at District Court.

Medical/Rescue Call- Had Patriot Ambulance transport student from Russell Towers to Burbank.

November 8, 1994

Larceny- of FSC property from Hammond Building.
Recover Stolen Property- Taken from the Hammond Building. Found in Russell Towers. J-Board complaints filed.

Vandalism- To motor vehicle parked in the Ross Street Lot.

Fire Alarm- Burnt food set off alarm in Russell Towers.

November 9, 1994

Dispersal- Of five local youths from the New Halls Quad.
Request For Police- Fight in progress reported on Authority Dr. Subjects ran upon seeing cruiser.

Dispersal- Of six local males from behind Herlihy Hall.

November 10, 1994

Larceny- Of FSC property from the Anthony Building.
Larceny- Of MA license plate from motor vehicle parked in the North Street #1 Lot.

Larceny- Of FSC property reported taken from the Hammond Building and Conlon Industrial Arts.

November 11, 1994

Protective Custody- Two male subjects.

Request For Police- Three men ran past the desk in Russell Towers. Located subjects, informed them of policies and had them sign in with sponsor.

Medical/Rescue Call- Male subject transported to Burbank Hospital via Patriot Ambulance. J-Board complaint to be filed.

First Aid- Attended female student with swollen hand.

November 12, 1994

Protective Custody- One male student.

Drug Violation- J-Board complaints and Tress/Ban notices issued.

Noise Complaint- Excessive noise coming from the New Halls. Party shut down.

Suspicious Motor Vehicle- Out of town cab seen driving through the Quad at an unreasonable rate of speed. Stopped and issued a verbal warning.

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The Great American Smokeout, a day of national observance and initiative to help Americans stop smoking, will be held on November 17 in G-Lobby. Successful participants of the "Quit and Win" contest will be receiving prizes. Need help trying to quit? Counselors will be on hand to help. Sponsored by Health Services and Smart Choices.

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Stop treating the symptoms

by Leo Bray
Strobe staff

Are you familiar with the maxim "divide and conquer?" That's what the students of FSC have been doing — to themselves.

Everyone is talking about the parking problem, and have been since I started here. The specific complaints have changed. The college's policies on who can park where and when are different. The basic problem, however, remains the same — there aren't enough spaces.

While everyone is aware of this fact, they often get distracted by side issues. The current parking situation has commuters pitted against residents, and students in general facing off with Campus Police. Rather than bark at each other and focus on the symptoms and effects of this parking deficiency, why don't we look at the root of the problem?

Additional parking spaces, in any form or location, will cost money. The college as a whole has money. All of us who write a fat check to FSC at least twice a year know that there's money somewhere. As is true with any bureaucracy, FSC's problem is more likely improper allocation, not lack, of funds. We students should have a say in how our money is spent,

shouldn't we? We want a solution to the parking problem, and we pay to go here; isn't the customer always right?

When I first came here to attend a Friday at Fitchburg program, I decided to drive around and check out the neighborhood. Not knowing where the hell Fitchburg was, I had allowed myself plenty of time to get lost, arrived early and had some time to kill. I couldn't believe how jammed the streets were with parked cars. I parked in one of the Ross Street lots, just as the yellow and green signs directed. As I anxiously walked toward campus, I looked at the Weston and Upper Weston lots and thought, "Why don't they put a parking garage there? If they made it a nice three- or four-level one, maybe students wouldn't have to park so far away."

Today, I still have no answer to that question. I'm sure any dutiful administrator would tell me that there's no money available for a solution to the parking problem. Two major reasons they're not overly concerned with this are horizontal violence (infighting among students) and misplaced blame (Campus Police's continued role as a scapegoat for student gripes). These tangential concerns are distracting people from the source of the difficulty.

Students who are

concerned with the parking problem in one way or another need to address their frustrations to the proper people. But I'm not sure exactly who students should complain to in order to get results. Given the nature of a bureaucratic administration, it may be difficult to navigate or even locate the proper channels.

Once, when I had a beef with the district manager of a company I was working for, I experienced a similar confusion. Not knowing who was directly above him, I went for broke and wrote to the president of the company. (I didn't go over people's heads out of disrespect; I simply had no clue which head I could constructively turn to.) It worked just fine then. Can the same strategy of going straight to the top also work for the frustrated car-owning students of FSC?

There's only one way to find out. Why not drop a letter to President Mara and ask him to straighten out this one difficulty before he retires? It may not be within the scope of his presidential powers, but if it's not I'll bet he knows someone who can help. Maybe you can convince him to act on the longstanding parking problem so he can go out a winner, a hero to the students, and not just another bureaucrat.

A demand for proper nutrition

by Tina Leger
Contributing writer

Students of FSC,

There is a grave injustice being done to you every day, which you are aware of yet fail to report on. Slowly, but surely, the college is killing us off with the food which we are being served.

In the Commuter Cafeteria, students are complaining of foods high in fat and lacking any nutritional value.

Since I am a commuter, and I do have the lunch plan here at FSC, I truly get the best of both worlds! There has not been one day when I have been pleased with DAKA's food selection. People, please, if you have a meal plan, take a look at what you are getting for your money. Meat is a rare commodity, and fish only comes in the form of a square, fried hockey puck. Where are the yogurt, fresh fruit and bagels?

If we are "starving students" struggling to make ends meet, what would be a typical food we would supply ourselves with for any kind of nutrition? Pasta maybe? Bread, tuna, peanut butter?

Well, all of these foods can be found in abundance in DAKA. Why bother to pay the outrageous amount of money to purchase a meal plan? Is it the fact that most of us have nowhere to prepare our own food, or that it is more convenient? Most of us would probably be better off cooking on a hibachi outside Russell Towers.

I am writing this little reminder to all of you students who feel this way but continue to file into DAKA, anxiously awaiting testing the laws of nature by attempting to live through another meal. It is our job to speak up against things like this; we should demand a higher quality of food, a fresher selection, and a more nutritious one. We are being fooled if we think that what they offer to us now is selection.

Oh sure, there are different foods to choose from in DAKA, but they NEVER change! How many days does it take to try every food combination offered to us? Not many. Everyone should be concerned that they are not getting proper nutrition. For the people who are trying to be healthy, don't you find it difficult here at FSC?

Newspapers kept unorganized

by Derek Valcourt
Strobe staff

Fitchburg State College has one of the finest libraries of the state colleges and universities I've seen. Why then are the recent issues of the newspapers organized in such a haphazard manner?

Issues of the Sentinel & Enterprise, Telegram and Gazette, Boston Globe, and New York Times are all stacked (if you can call that stacked) in the most confusing manner on one case on the second floor of the Hammond Building. Whole sections are missing from editions of certain papers and are sometimes found on floors throughout the library.

When you need to find something, it isn't there.

As a reporter, I find particularly frustrating when I need to do research on an event or topic that might have been covered up to two weeks ago and end up spending close to an hour just looking for the edition of the paper I need. Then I have to cross my fingers and hope that the section is actually in the paper, not separated and lost in the stacks. Asking a librarian sometimes works, but for they must part they have to go through the same searching process as you do and are often just as confused.

If you want to read the latest article by one of your favorite local writers, good luck searching for the culprit who is currently reading that paper on any given floor of the library.

Maybe the library should monitor who takes out the recent issues of the paper and neatly organize the back issues. There has to be a better way than one now.

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Not a still night in Weston

by Derek Valcourt
Strobe staff

It certainly was not a still night in Weston Auditorium on November 8. In fact, a captive audience was compelled to watch the movement of twelve bodies writhing in synchronization. Six men and six women had come together to do what they do best.

The Michael Mao Dance Company performed four dance numbers for Fitchburg State College, including the New England premiere of "Still Night," danced to the music of Arvo Part's *Stabat Mater* as performed by the Hilliard Ensemble. Costumed by Lynne Steincamp in flowing white outfits, the dancers demonstrated their power and consistency with strong lifts and simple movements.

The Company taught a master's dance class on November 7, in which over thirty Fitchburg State College students were taught the beginning combinations of this abstract dance.

"Moon Over Nashan Beach Part II" was a dance that relied on repetition. The men and women were doing similar combinations separately and then finally met together to work in pairs. The dance was choreographed to Beethoven's Piano Sonata #14 in C sharp minor. Movements were sharp and jagged with constant sudden popping into the air, quite similar to a fish jumping out of a lake.

"Riddles" was the third number of the evening, featuring music by Kurt Weill from *Kleine drei Groschen Musik*. The dance was a comedic play on relationships with a lot of partner moves. Six dancers wearing all-



Not a still night for the photographer either...

photo by Derek Valcourt

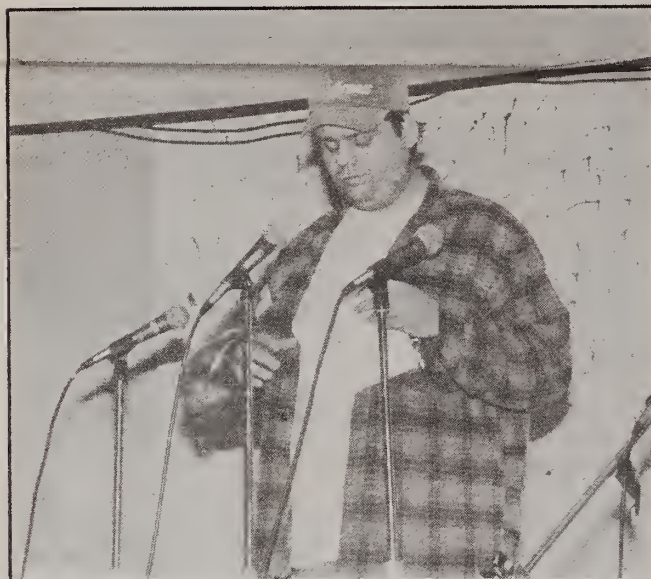
black outfits and black sneakers promenaded around the stage to the bouncy music completing many lifts.

Michael Mao is the artistic director of the 12-member company and

choreographer of all works at the show. He was born in Shanghai, China and grew up in New York City where he trained with several prominent dancers and schools. He has choreographed over forty works which have

been seen in the United States, in Paris, and in Oslo. He is a recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Grant and was recently honored with an award from the Ragdale Foundation.

Open Mic Night percolates at Coffeehouse



Pat Newhart reads his poetry at Coffeehouse.

photo by Paula Ferazzi

by Gina Procopio
Staff writer

An Open Mic Coffeehouse, sponsored by Programs Committee, showed an array of talent from the FSC community and featured once again a plethora of coffee, a variety of herbal tea and even some poetry, music and a few jokes.

The evening started with a depressing or perhaps deep, depending on how you look at it, poetry reading by Pat Newhart. Don't fret though, because the poetry didn't stop there. Another poet, Jason Koivu, was a bit more light and humorous with the reading of his piece entitled, "Guitar Boy

Jimmy" and other selections as well.

The evening, although poorly constructed due to performers that left open mic time with the lack of their presence, did prove to be a success. Several guitar acts were quite skilled and very impressive, such as Foster and Lavoy. The two sang hits by the Moody Blues, the Beatles, and Sloop John B., from the "Forrest Gump" soundtrack.

The evening would not have been complete without the harmonic performance that was later joined by Jeff Wafu on the guitar. They had a sort of bluesy sound that the audience seemed to enjoy.

The night ended early

after a few funny improv jokes by the once poet, now comedian, Newhart. The performers on stage were definitely worth the trip. It takes courage to get up before the audience and stand in those bright lights. Some performers were openly and obviously nervous, but all who braved the stage were able to deliver.

The night was a little different from the standard Sunday Coffeehouse when people generally just listen to a musical performer passively. Students had the chance to get up on stage and show what they could do instead of just watching, and they had a great time doing it. Congratulations to everyone involved in the

Rock icons defy ice age

by Jason Koivu
Strobe staff

Jimmy Page and Robert Plant: "No Quarter" *** (out of five)

The adventurous spirit of Robert Plant has once again evoked the dark soul of Jimmy Page. "No Quarter: Jimmy Page & Robert Plant Unledded" is a release of new material and covers from a couple of rock and roll dinosaurs who have defied the ice age.

After years of rumor and denial regarding the reunion of Led Zeppelin, these two rock icons are together again. But this is not the mighty blimp of the

past (no Jones or Bonham, not even Jason). Yes, they are playing Zeppelin songs for the most part, and Plant and Page are the ones generally credited with making the band what it was. However, something is going on here. Those old, reliable rockin' tunes like "Nobody's Fault But Mine" and "Four Sticks" have become a vague din of what they once were. In their place echo the old melodies in new arrangements shrouded by a thick blanket of Eastern influence.

The idea is not new. Rockers have often journeyed the musical expanses of the East to come back with an ancient sound that, again and again,

rings fresh in the ears of the West. Northern Africa is the victim of cultural pillaging by Plant and Page this time around. Their life-long interest in the music of this area of the world is obvious in Zeppelin tunes such as "Kashmir," "White Summer," "Black Mountain Side," and on some of Plant's solo work. The style of music on "No Quarter," which is generally acoustic, suits these 'elderly' musicians. Plant's decrepit voice blends well with the raspy vocals of the African singers. Rhythm and exotic sounds are prominent throughout.

Cont. on pg. 7

'Stargate': out of this world

by Norman Miller
Staff writer

Ronald Emmerich's "Stargate" is a great movie that relies on the strong performances of its actors and the dazzling special effects throughout the film.

James Spader plays an Egyptologist who is hired to decipher the seven signs to open up the stargate. Kurt Russell plays the depressed army colonel who is there to make sure everything goes right.

When Spader and Russell do go through the stargate, they find a world strikingly similar to an ancient Egyptian period. They also find a colony of humans who serve as slaves and mine workers for the sun-god Ra, played by Jaye Davidson ("The Crying Game").

Cont. on pg. 7

From the Locker Room

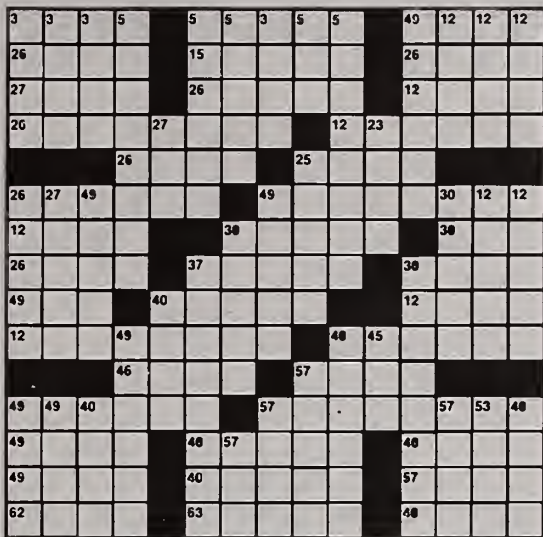
Nobody's asking, but...

By Todd Finn
Strobe Staff

- * I wish The Patriots would just come onto the field and start convincing the fans that they are going to win from the first quarter on. This fourth quarter come from behind stuff is great, but people are going to start getting ulcers and heart conditions if it keeps up any longer!
- * If the athletic department decides to recognize our cheerleaders as athletes and allows them to cheer for the basketball team, where are we going to put them? In the gym lobby? Don't you think it's time to at least renovate Parkinson Gymnasium so that we at least look presentable, and have a place for our cheerleaders?
- * If you ever find yourself in the state of Indiana with no place to stay, maybe you should paint yourself orange and black, curl up like a basketball, and start tumbling around in someone's wheat field. Chances are, somebody will drive by, see you, and bring you home, because hey...free basketball!
- * The fans at the Patriots game truly distorted the nations view of New England supporters. As the Pats walked off the field during halftime, everyone was "booing". Yet when they won the game in overtime, everyone loved them! So much for the old "stick with our team" attitude we as New Englanders claim to have.
- * If dogs could play a sport, it would probably be soccer because they have more feet than people and they love to run. Geese, however, would be pretty bad at soccer, because they have flat feet and can't kick very hard.
- * The Hockey team won their home opener, 6-2, over Skidmore on Thursday night. If I had more writers on my staff, maybe I'd have a story for this week. Please, if you enjoy hockey and would like to be their writer for the season, call or write to me at the Strobe.
- * Speaking of hockey, if you ever get hit in the mouth by a speeding puck, forget about brushing your teeth because, man, they're gone. However, if you transferred to North Adams State, you may just fit right in.
- * The men's basketball team will be opening up on Monday, November 28th right here at home! That's the first day back after Thanksgiving Break for those of you without calendars, so show up in high spirits, and get ready to witness the revolution!

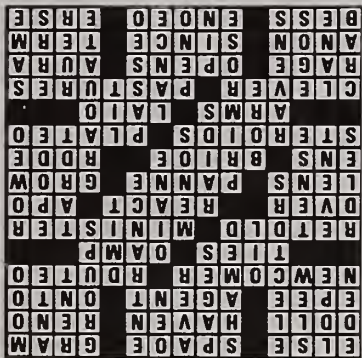
THE Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Otherwise
 - 5 Playing card
 - 10 Weight
 - 14 Girl's toy
 - 15 Safe port
 - 16 Divorce city
 - 17 Fencing sword
 - 18 Representative
 - 19 Aware of
 - 20 Latest to arrive
 - 22 Defeated handily
 - 24 Cravats
 - 25 Moist
 - 26 Related again
 - 29 Cleric
 - 33 Concluded
 - 34 Respond
 - 35 Military address letters
 - 36 Camera eye
 - 37 Velvet type
 - 38 Prosper
 - 39 Printing measures
 - 40 Altar figure
 - 41 Went by car
 - 42 Muscle-building compounds
 - 44 Coated
 - 46 Provides guns
 - 47 Placed down
 - 48 Talented
 - 51 Green areas for cattle
 - 55 Storm
 - 56 Commences
 - 58 Halo
 - 59 Soon
 - 60 After that time
 - 61 Semester
 - 62 Mrs. Harry Truman
 - 63 Terminated
 - 64 Gaelic
- DOWN
- 1 Perfect garden
 - 2 Easy gait
 - 3 Killed
 - 4 Voters
 - 5 Embarrassed
 - 6 Senate aides
 - 7 State with conviction
 - 8 Cozy room
 - 9 Portal
 - 10 Parties
 - 11 Landlord's income
 - 12 Poker stake
 - 13 Frame of mind
 - 21 Lubricant
 - 23 Leave out
 - 25 Keaton of movies
 - 26 Actors' parts
 - 27 Happening
 - 28 I'at
 - 29 Darns
 - 30 Fortune-telling card
 - 31 Poem
 - 32 Paddled
 - 34 Police seizures
 - 37 Spring bloom
 - 38 Complete college
 - 40 Tiresome person
 - 43 Black birds
 - 44 Went by
 - 45 Illuminated



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ANSWERS



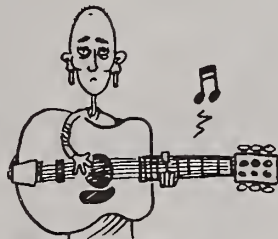
- 47 Spear
- 48 Curmudgeon
- 49 Country road
- 50 Selves
- 51 Await a decision
- 52 One having regrets
- 53 Makes a mistake
- 54 Ditto
- 57 Metal fastener

IRISH ODDITIES.

DAVIDSON



PEACE



SINEAD O'CONNER

Pine Riders, cont from pg 8

competition is much greater, so I stick around and wait for my day to come, knowing in my mind that it may never happen, but believing in my heart that someday, it just might.

Just as I chased that ball into the muddy gully in the fourth grade, I am chasing that dream by playing on a college team today. I know that I am not the only Pine Rider with memories of glory days ringing around in his mind as I sit on the bench, but I wonder who else on this team wants to play as much as I do. Still though, I keep on plugging away and getting better. Learning, waiting, and

filling that empty uniform with a big heart.

So the next time you go to a basketball game here at FSC, remember that every player on the team knows how to shoot ball. Some are just better than others at what needs to be done. If you can remember to make it a point to save one or two claps for those hardworkers and ball chasers who are riding the pine, your gestures of encouragement may just be enough to put a smile on their faces. For some of us, basketball has become more than just a game. It's a quest to find out if dreams can really come true.

Rock icons, cont. from pg 6

The title track, which was rather strange when it appeared on the album "Houses of the Holy," gets even more bizarre. The new material is almost completely skewered by an African and Indian sound. "Yallah," "City Don't Cry," and "Wonderful One" don't try to stretch for that campy-old-musician-trying-to-sound-hip as Coverdale and Page did with disastrous results. Of course, Plant can't help himself at times and lets out a cheesy sigh. All in all, he keeps it to a minimum.

Purists may take solace in that not all of the covers have been tampered with. Songs such as "Since I've Been Loving You" and "Thank You" remain

the same.

Bron-Y-Aur, the small cottage in South Snowdonia which acted as inspiration to the album "Led Zeppelin III," is credited "for painting a somewhat forgotten picture of true completeness which acted as an incentive to some of the musical statements." Four of the thirteen tracks off this release come from "Led Zeppelin III," which was touted as a turning point for the band musically. Plant and Page, whose friendship has been suspect over the last ten years, have not come to a turning point with "No Quarter." However, it is a basis from which they can launch a stable, musical venture.

Stargate, cont. from pg 6

But adding to the realism of the movie was the superb sets representing ancient Egypt, the special effects like when Spader first goes through the stargate, and the war-birds that are flown by Ra's guards.

There are a couple of parts of the movie that are a little unbelievable, such as how the people are scared of a lighter, but seem to have no problem dealing with guns. However, the movie flows so well that you don't even notice the little imperfections or that the movie is a little over two hours long.

"Stargate," rated PG-13, is playing in theaters everywhere and is currently a box office hit.

Intramurals: Varsity Alternative

by Andrew Taylor
Staff writer

As the cold of winter moves in on FSC, one thing is for sure: intramural sports are heating up. Another successful and exciting fall season of co-ed softball concluded last week, and the inaugural season of flag football has begun. In addition to these sports, co-ed volleyball will be starting another season.

Looking back, the Intramural Department witnessed one of the most exciting seasons of softball ever. There were a number of teams involved in the seasons, and, win or lose, everyone had a good time. The powerhouse of the league, however, was Garry's Old Time Tavern (GOTT), who suffered only one loss during the regular season to the defending champions Not This Year. After this loss, GOTT rolled into the playoffs and defeated SD&SP in

the championship game. GOTT was led by playoff MVP, Mike Cook, who put together a fine post-season to accompany his strong regular season.

When asked about his MVP honors, Cook said, "I wish there was 15 of these awards because everyone played well, but I accept this for the whole team."

Good job to all of the teams that helped make the season a success, and congratulations to Garry's Old Time Tavern for their championship season.

Next on the agenda is the arrival of flag football to FSC. Students for years have been waiting for this sport to arrive, and their wishes have finally been granted. Monday and Tuesday marked the kickoff of the season. The arrival of flag football will allow the football fans of the college to showcase their talents for the sport they

love. This first season is sure to be a huge success, and good luck to everyone participating.

Another sport in which students are preparing for is co-ed volleyball. The intramural volleyball season is one that always brings excitement and fun to the campus. Each year there are a number of teams, and each one seems to enjoy themselves.

Students not involved in intramural athletics may wonder what it has to offer them. For one, you are getting the opportunity to play a sport and be physical with a team full of your friends. You also get the chance to meet a number of new people that you will form friendships with. More importantly, however, you have fun and that's all that really matters -- although those green championship t-shirts do bring out the competitor in everyone.

Pine Rider's testimony

by Todd Finn
Strobe staff

I'm just as guilty as anyone else. I mean, I've gone to basketball games and watched as seven or eight players from one team consumed all of the playing time, leaving six guys on the bench for the entire contest. I used to think that those players who rarely took off their warm-ups and only stood up to cheer were the Pine Riders with no talent, bodies to fill empty uniforms, or people for the better players to practice against during the week. It took a humbling experience here at Fitchburg State College for me to realize that I was wrong, and a search within myself to discover exactly why.

After a two-hour practice with the FSC basketball team, I often retire to my room where I take off the warm and sweaty sneakers, down some Gatorade, and reflect on the days gone by when I was not just a Pine Rider and practice body. I think about the times spent in the fourth grade, when I would watch the clock tick its way to two thirty, releasing me from school for yet another day. Returning home on those late November afternoons, I would grab a brownie, drink some Kool

Aid, and rush up the carpeted staircase to my room. After changing into some old sweat pants, donning a green, hooded sweatshirt and kissing my mother goodbye, I would run to the basement where my sneakers were kept. Sitting on the concrete floor in the laundry room, right next to the water heater, I'd struggle to slip my growing feet into the canvas Chuck Taylors, knowing that I should have unlaced the first few holes but too anxious to actually go through with it. Once I was all suited up, I would locate my rubber basketball with the phony Larry Bird signature fading quickly from the front, and head out the door into the brisk chill of an upcoming winter.

I knew that if I cut through a few yards between my house and the school, I could be there in seven minutes (provided there were no mean dogs to contend with). Always running, I would often trip and fall because my body was awkwardly growing faster than my level of coordination. Nevertheless, the red and brick building eventually came into sight, sporting its two limbs of steel backboards. The iron rims seemed to be inviting me to come and play before the snow fell.

I never had to deal with

anyone making fun of me because nobody ever came to play. I was my only critic, and a ten-year-old is easily satisfied as long as the ball hits the rim. Many times, the rubber ball would completely miss the hoop as I heaved it up just a bit too hard, causing it to roll down the hill and into the mud-filled gully below. I probably spent more time chasing the ball than I did shooting baskets, as my dirty canvas sneakers witnessed many trips into the trenches. I never learned to play defense by myself, and the fact that I was a little white boy with a wiffle style crew cut never made me feel inferior. Alone, I learned to shoot the ball so that I would never have to chase it into the gully again. I always thought that one day, people would come to see me play.

When my digital watch read five o'clock, it was always time to go home for dinner. Although it was usually too dark to see the hoop, I could never leave until I made one last basket. Not seeing the hoop due to the darkness made me rely on listening for a "swish" instead of a "clank!" More often than not, I would end up being late for supper, but always went to bed knowing that my last shot went in.

Somewhere between

All stars



Dean Nichols and Chris Dupuis

photo by Todd Finn



Kim Walsh and Coreen White

photo by Todd Finn

by Todd Finn
Strobe staff

As we continue our Fall All Stars, we feature Chris Dupuis and Dean Nichols from Men's Soccer. Also featured are Coreen White and Kim Walsh of the Women's Cross Country Team.

Nichols (19 goals, 10

assists) was voted to the MASCAC All Star Team, and Dupuis (10 goals, 6 assists) was named to the second team earlier this week. White and Walsh were selected as Conference All Stars as well.

Next week, the Strobe will feature the Women's Soccer and Volleyball All Stars, as well as the Men's Cross Country All Stars.

four and six feet, someone saw that I could shoot the ball pretty well. At least well enough to be a part of a small, high school team. The confusing concept of defense, organized play, and peer pressure took its toll on me, and I reserved myself to feeling inferior to those seemingly better players. I always came back, however, and held my own as the years went by.

Running circles around the non-existent talent in the military, I felt I had finally discovered my place in the game. Leading the Long Range Recon Unit's basketball team in scoring during league play, I truly thought that I was ready to

play college ball. Never would I sit on the bench again, I thought, and the fans would cheer for me as I flew up and down the court. How wrong those thoughts were, as proven during my first season at FSC.

As a reserve player now, I am once again backing up the true talent. I understand that the game is no longer for wiffle haired kids from the days of solo shooting, but instead, it has become a physical, demanding sport for the athletic jumpers and runners. I know that I can still learn from the players who grew up in the inner cities where the

Cont. on pg. 7